



Department of Health and Human Services
Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention
286 Water Street
11 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0011
Tel.: (207) 287-8016; Fax: (207) 287-9058
TTY Users: Dial 711 (Maine Relay)

Tel. (207) 287-2070

Drinking Water Program

Fax (207) 287-4172

Date: July 27, 2015

To: All Public Water Systems and Interested Parties

From: Normand R. Lamie, P.E.
Program Manager Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)

Subject: **Request for Project Applications for the 2015 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund**

The Maine Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) is soliciting applications for drinking water projects through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) program. The DWSRF program is a low-interest loan program that assists public water systems with the cost of improving drinking water infrastructure, including new and replacement well sources, treatment and pump house upgrades, storage tanks, water main replacements, new or replacement service water meters, and interconnections between two or more existing public water systems. Eligible public water systems include all community public water systems and non-transient non-profit public water systems.

Project Applications for the 2016 DWSRF season are now available. The DWP anticipates up to \$18 million in funding will be available for 2016 projects.

Public water systems desiring to receive financial assistance through the 2016 DWSRF must complete and submit an Application Form for Reporting DWSRF Eligible Projects **by September 25, 2015.** **An electronic copy of the application form can be found on the DWP website at www.medwp.com/pws/srf.shtml.** You can also request a copy of the Application Form from Norm Lamie at norm.lamie@maine.gov or calling 287-2647.

Projects will be prioritized to determine which projects will be funded. For the 2016 DWSRF, the Program will use a rating system based on the Priority Point system. The primary objective for distributing funds is to focus on projects that will provide assistance to PWS's to maintain the health objectives of the SDWA. However, additional points may be given for projects with legal requirements, compatibility with previously identified needs, readiness to proceed to construction, and availability of co-funding with other funding agencies.

Principal Forgiveness Qualified Disadvantaged Communities may be eligible for Principal Forgiveness of a portion of their DWSRF loan. Eligibility is based on a community's Median Household Income (MHI) and current residential water user rates. The MHI is based on information from the U. S. Census American Community Survey (ACS). Because of the statistical sample size and survey frequencies the Department must use the ACS 5-year estimates for comparison of median

household incomes. See “Instructions for Obtaining Your Community’s Median Household Income to be reported on the DWSRF Project Information Request Form” on the DWP website at www.medwp.com/pws/srf.shtml for more information.

The income data used to determine median household income should be that which most accurately reflects the income of the year-round residential customers in a water system's service area. This data can come from either the American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (2006-2010) prepared by the U.S. Census Bureau, or from a more current independent system income survey. If you intended to use an independent income survey, your independent income survey must be completed prior to and included with the SRF funding application. Income surveys must be conducted by an independent third-party using a methodology approved by the Drinking Water Program. Income surveys shall not be valid for more than three years.

Anticipated Schedule for the 2016 DWSRF Program Implementation

Project application deadline	September 25, 2015
Projects prioritized, placed in IUP.....	November 6, 2015
Draft IUP available for public review	December 4, 2015
Public comment meeting	January 8, 2016
End of written comment period.....	January 29, 2016
DWSRF Grant Application submission to EPA Region I.....	February 26, 2016
Grant Award by EPA Region I.....	May, 2016

Technical/administrative questions regarding the 2015 DWSRF application process should be directed to Norm Lamie at (207) 287-2647 or Nate Saunders at (207) 287-5685. Questions regarding loan applications and the loan approval process should be directed to Rob Nadeau at the Maine Municipal Bond Bank at (207) 622-9386 or (800) 821-1113.

Yours for safe drinking water,



Normand R. Lamie, P.E.
Chief Engineer, Maine Drinking Water Program